

The Bates Student

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FORUM

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Meredith Kelly '14 scores her 1,000th point for women's basketball while Graham Safford '15 drains a game-winning 3 for the men's team, earning NESCAC Player of the Week.



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Members of the Brooks Quimby Debate Council in Chennai, India. STEPHANIE WESSON / THE BATES STUDENT

Brooks Quimby goes international

JAKE VILLARREAL
STAFF WRITER

While many Bates students were experiencing the harsh brutality of the polar vortex over the Winter break, four members of the Brooks Quimby Debate Council made their way to sunny Chennai, India to compete against teams from around the world in verbal showdowns of epic proportions.

The event, the World Universities Debating Championship (WUDC) is a British Parliamentary style debate tournament held every year in a different location. The event hosts over 400 teams, each with two members, representing over 250 universities across 70 different nations.

The two teams competing from Bates were Taylor Blackburn '15 and Jack Stewart '14, and Stephanie Wesson '14 and Matt Summers '15. After eventually receiving their Indian VISAs, they traveled to India, enjoyed the sights and the food, and began the tournament.

The debate motions, which teams are assigned to either defend or oppose, are decided beforehand and debated in hour-long rounds with seven minute speeches from each member. After each motion is revealed, participants are given fifteen hectic minutes to prepare their speeches and outlines for the round.

Some of the motions from Worlds included "This house believes that the United States of America should fund moderate Madrassas (schools of Islamic study) throughout the Islamic world", and "This house would auction off the long-term right to govern bankrupt cities for profit."

This was Bates' most successful year ever at Worlds. Both teams broke into the top 40, and the finals brackets, doubling the amount of breaking teams in any previous year.

"My last round featured teams representing four different continents, and I feel honored to have participated in an event that highlights the capacity for

global discussion that drew me to debate in the first place," says Blackburn.

Teams outside of the United States are able to draw on their experiences and examples from a different perspective than most US college students, and Worlds brings these perspectives in direct clash with each other for a high level of discussion. Out of the seven United States teams that broke into the finals bracket, or 'out-rounds', two of them were the Bates Teams. A team from Harvard won the World Championship, making them the first American students to win since 1993.

This is the most recent long-distance tournament that the BQDC has sent teams to this year, the others being Oxford and Cambridge, with an upcoming tournament at Stanford University. The Brooks Quimby Debate Council accepts new members all year, from all grades and experience levels, and meets Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at 4:10 in the second floor of Pettigrew Hall.

Early Decision I admits notified of acceptance to Bates

ANNE STRAND
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The latest group of future Bobcats has joined the Bates student population. As of December 20th, 183 high school students have been notified of their acceptance to Bates' Class of 2018. The Bates Office of Admission selected the admitted Bobcats from a total 405 students who applied to the Early Decision I deadline, which was due on November 15th. The number of Early Decision I applications received this November marks a five percent decrease in applications from last year, as Bates received 425 applicants for Early Decision I in the fall of 2012. The amount of received applications from fall 2011 to fall 2012, however, marked a 35 percent increase in Early Decision I applications. Dean of Admission & Financial Aid Leigh Weisenburger notes that the Office of Admission is thrilled to have the new "benchmark" of 400+ Early Decision I applications.

Early Decision I marks the earliest option for submitting an application to Bates; the subsequent submission options are Early Decision II and Regular Admission, both of which have application deadlines of January 1st. For the 183 students recently admitted to Bates' Class of 2018, the acceptance is binding, meaning that the admitted students have committed to attending Bates next fall.

Dean Weisenburger explains that the target number of students for the Bates Class of 2018 is 490, meaning that the 183 students accepted from the Early Decision applicant pool will make up roughly 37 percent of next year's first-year class if this goal is matched. Furthermore, it is projected that about 50 percent of Bates' Class of 2018 will be selected from the Early Decision I and Early Decision II applicant pools. For the Class of 2017, almost exactly half of the students were admitted from Early Decision I and Early Decision II.

These admission trends at Bates mirror colleges and universities across

the NESCAC league as the Bates Office of Admission has received a steadily increasing number of Early Decision applications throughout the past ten years. When asked if there is one aspect that is thought to promote the increased number of Early Decision applicants, Dean Weisenburger believes the increasing number of early application stands as a "mark of success with the outreach program. Bates stays with students throughout the decision process, beginning in sophomore or junior year. We are in their email, for example, offering multiples views of what it's like to be at Bates." Getting and staying in touch with high school students from early in their college search process affords students plenty of time to decide if Bates is the right fit for them, and such students can feel confident with applying to Bates through the binding Early Decision option.

"We're thrilled with the size, strength, and overall make up of the application pool," notes Dean Weisenburger. "It speaks to the desirability of a Bates education ... and what Bates represents in the college marketplace." The recently reviewed Early Decision I applicant pool represented the most geographically diverse Early Decision applicant pool in Bates' history, meaning that the majority of the applicants are from states outside of New England.

Dean Weisenburger reinforced Bates' commitment and policy of meeting students' need for financial aid, noting the college's ongoing "commitment of access and affordability for all students." The same number of students accepted from the Early Decision pool receive financial aid as those accepted from the regular acceptance pool. 48 percent of last year's enrolled Class of 2017 received institutional grant aid.

Last year, Bates accepted 24.2 percent of applicants from all three applicant pools. With only just over 300 spots remaining in the Class of 2018, the Bates Office of Admissions is sure to have some difficult work ahead in the next few months.

The roller coaster of re-entry after abroad experiences

SARAH DURGY
STAFF WRITER

Bates' Off-Campus Study Office encourages all students to consider studying abroad, stressing that it's for everyone from biology majors to politics majors, from varsity athletes to debaters. Perhaps because of this encouragement, over 60 percent of juniors and a handful of students from other class years study abroad every year. Batesies travel all over the world, enhancing their academic studies with immersion into new cultures and different educational settings. For many the experience is deeply transformative; however, what happens when these travelers return to Bates?

This semester, Bates welcomes 133 students back to campus. Transition from a host country to Bates life can be shocking, not due only to readjusting to the harsh Maine winter weather. As Dean Sawyer notes in his welcome home letter to returning students, "one of the ironies of study abroad is that returning home can be as emotionally challenging as the first month abroad." Students returning after a fall semester abroad have an especially daunting transition due to the short time between their return to the United States and the beginning of second semester at Bates. Most returning students have already spent two years immersed in the Bates community, so why is this transition back "home" so hard?

The Off-Campus Study Office dis-

tributes a readjustment manual written by Leonore Cavallero for parents of SIT Study Abroad students as an effort to explain that students' conflicting emotions are natural. Cavallero describes how students may experience a stressful acclimation to their host country at the beginning of their abroad program, once they have successfully immersed themselves into this new culture, abruptly leaving it behind can leave them with a sense of loss. In addition, prolonged participation in a different culture can change a student, leading to what Cavallero terms "return culture shock."

When talking to some students who have returned from abroad, they echoed a few of Cavallero's sentiments. Pete Mihalcik '15 spent the semester in Shang Hai, China and noted how strange it is to suddenly have such a scheduled day. He had gotten comfortable with a less structured day while abroad.

Alfred Russo '15 agreed with this idea, stating that after his semester in Florence, Italy, it has been tough to readjust to American norms of timeliness. Russo additionally pointed out a unique aspect of returning to Bates. Because so many Batesies study abroad during their junior years, returning can be strange simply because the student body is smaller and different. Russo says that the "amount of people I know and don't know is overwhelming."

Tommy Fitzgerald '16 spent the semester in Saint Petersburg, Russia and feels excited to be back at Bates but already misses his Russian friends and

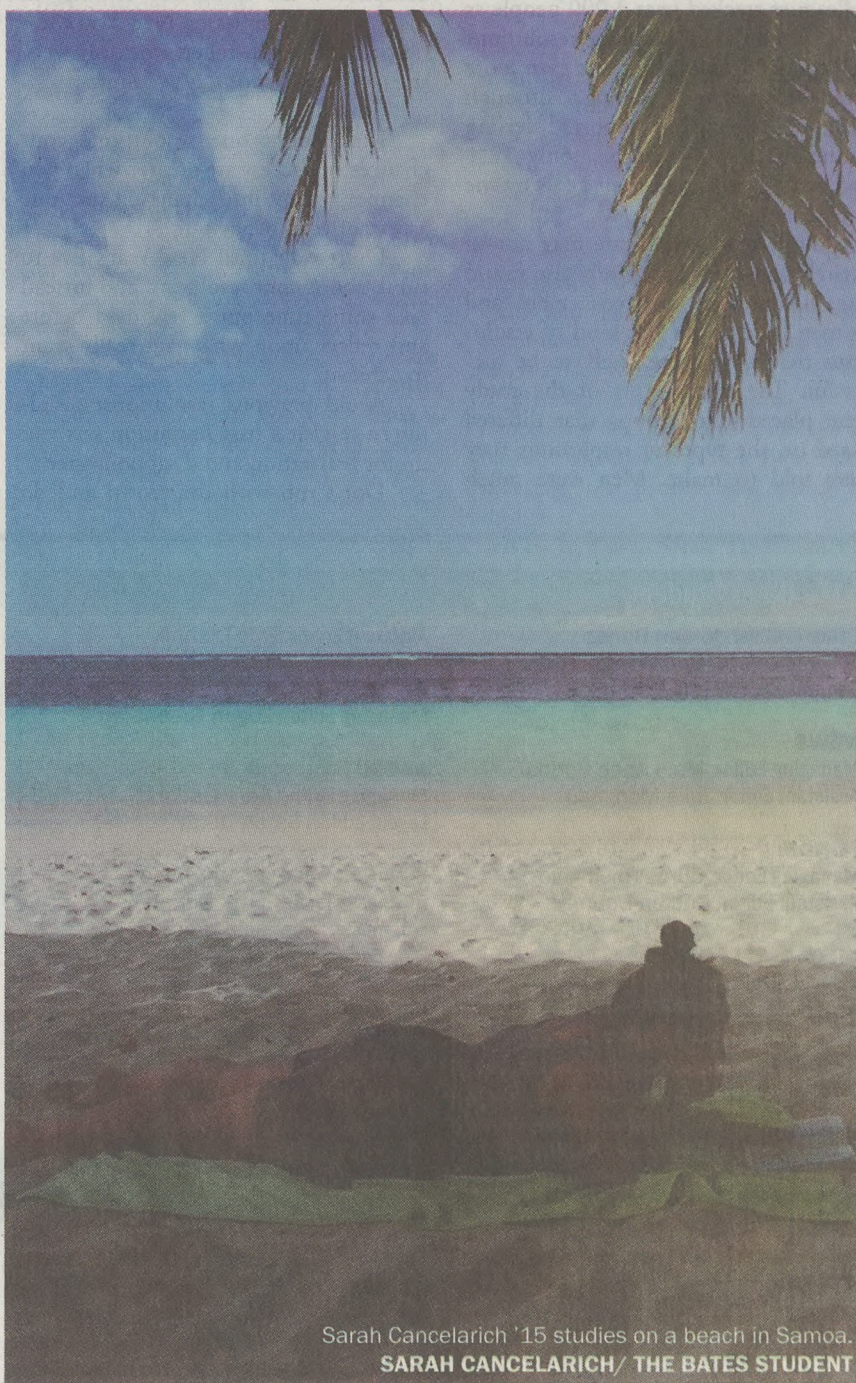
host mom.

Coming home to Bates can be stressful and strange, but returning Batesies thankfully have many available resources to ease their transition. The Off-Campus Study Office sends the afore-mentioned welcome back letter full of advice, have a "Welcome Back" webpage that discusses the ups and downs of re-entry, and host a Welcome Back reception where students can discuss coping techniques for the re-entry blues. In addition, the Office of the Multifaith Chaplaincy sponsors "Back to Bates," meetings that offer a safe space for reflection and conversation among returning students.

The Off-Campus Study Office also stresses the importance of extending the study abroad experience even after returning. In this way, a rocky re-entry can quickly turn into a positive influence on future academic and personal development because of the experiences gained abroad. For example, students are encouraged to consider integrating new knowledge accrued abroad to their theses or to take classes related to an interest developed while abroad. They can also share their experience with the community by submitting their photos from abroad to the annual study abroad photography exhibit.

Students should also be willing to bring positive aspects of their host culture into the Bates community. Mihalcik remembers a widespread welcoming at-

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Sarah Cancelarich '15 studies on a beach in Samoa. SARAH CANCELARICH / THE BATES STUDENT

Lingering concerns with Mayor Macdonald

CARLY PERUCCIO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I was delighted to read the interview with Lewiston Mayor Robert Macdonald in *The Bates Student's* November 20th issue. This is surely a sign of the ever-growing connection between Bates and Lewiston, and I am particularly encouraged that Mayor Macdonald recognizes the importance of this relationship.

I am concerned, however, that the mayor believes that his 2012 comments that Lewiston's Somali residents should "leave [their] culture at the door" are mitigated by the fact that he "[wants] them to become Americans and prosper." I reject the idea that the paths to both prosperity and becoming an American must involve casting ethnic identities aside.

Like Mayor Macdonald, I hope that everyone who lives in Lewiston can be happy and successful. However, maintaining cultural traditions is not an impediment to this success. This became clear to me when I attended "Lewiston-Auburn Shines" in early December, sponsored by Bates Professor of Anthropology, Elizabeth Eames. Members of the panel addressed the contributions of immigrants and refugees to the economic development of Lewiston and Auburn. Two of the four panelists, a Somali woman and man, operate their own successful small businesses on Lisbon Street.

In order to succeed as business owners, these entrepreneurs have made use of the economic skills they had learned in Somalia. Many of the dishes served in their restaurants and many of the products sold in their stores are part of their cultural traditions. One panelist even described his market as a "reflection of [his] culture." Clearly, the success of new-Mainers' small businesses disproves the assumption that rejecting ethnic heritage is necessary for attaining prosperity.

Equally problematic is Mayor Macdonald's suggestion that becoming an American depends upon the rejection of ethnic identity. Mayor Macdonald has chosen to identify himself as an American as opposed to an Irish-American, but everyone else should not be required to do the same; he does not have the authority to decide other people's identities for them.

Furthermore, Lewiston's cultural diversity has been a distinguishing characteristic of the city for over a century. From about the 1840s to 1960s, Lewiston became the home of Irish, French-Canadian, Chinese, German, Austro-Hungarian, Scottish, Welsh, Lithuanian, Greek, Italian, Russian, and Polish immigrants. Somalis and Somali Bantus began settling in Lewiston in the early 2000s, while Djiboutian, Congolese, Sudanese, and Chadian residents have arrived within the most recent years. A vibrant and active Franco-American community continues to remain present within the city.

Lewiston, therefore, has not had a homogeneous population since the middle of the 19th century. The presence of ethnic diversity and the retention of cultural heritage (whether it be Franco-American or Somali-Bantu-American) is, in fact, consistent with Lewiston's history. Mayor Macdonald ignores this history by suggesting that Lewiston's residents, regardless of their own personal choices, should view themselves as Americans without hyphenated identities.

It is a mistake to regard the cultural diversity of our city as a weakness. Perhaps us Bates students, as Lewiston residents, ought to recognize this as one of the many advantages of living here. When people have different backgrounds, histories, and identities, the opportunities to learn from one another and challenge each other's previous assumptions will multiply.

Working as an English tutor at Lewiston's Adult Learning Center has been one of the most enriching experiences during my time at Bates thus far, in part because it has allowed me to recognize and fully appreciate this advantage of living in Lewiston.

Many of the students with whom I work have come here as immigrants and refugees, and I have grown from the relationships and friendships I have formed with them. This opportunity for cross-cultural understanding and personal growth would not be possible in a place where people have abandoned their cultures at the door.

How is your New Year's resolution going?

CURTIS RHEINGOLD
MANAGING FORUM EDITOR

I will be upfront with my thoughts on New Year's resolutions: I don't make them and I don't like them. When I was younger, I attempted to make a few general resolutions such as 'get better grades' or 'eat healthier.' Just as I suspect happens to most people, a few weeks after making my resolutions I had already forgotten about my commitment. Of course I still tried my hardest to improve my grades or to avoid the temptation of eating another cookie, but my resolutions did not have any direct impact on these decisions. With or without a resolution, most people still want to be healthy and study hard.

A 2007 study by British psychologist Richard Wiseman found that even the most determined people typically struggle to fulfill their resolutions. Throughout the year, Wiseman and his colleagues tracked over 3,000 people as they attempted to complete resolutions that ranged from visiting the gym more often to quitting smoking. Although 52% of participants reported feeling confident of their success, only 12% had actually achieved their goals by the end of the year.

While this success rate may not be entirely surprising, the study also found large differences between men and women in terms of the kind of resolutions that were more likely to be successful. The participants of the study were placed into groups that differed based on the types of resolutions they were told to make. Men were much

more successful when they set specific goals (rather than a more general resolution such as losing weight) or when they focused on the rewards associated with fulfilling their resolutions. Women had more success if they either told their family and friends about their goals, or when they were specifically reminded to persevere through small setbacks.

It seems like these tips could help anybody, regardless of gender, to be more successful at achieving their resolutions. Smaller, more achievable goals allow for several benefits over general yearlong resolutions. Not only are they easier to achieve, but the very act of succeeding can encourage further goal setting and completion. Additionally, sharing one's goals with friends and family can help encourage people to stick to their resolutions for longer since they have more people to answer to.

Wiseman collected feedback from all of the participants in the study and compiled a list of his top ten tips at making and completing New Year's resolutions. The list, taken from his website *Quirkology.com*, is as follows:

Make only one resolution, your chances of success are greater when you channel energy into changing just one aspect of your behaviour.

Don't wait until New Year's Eve to think about your resolution and instead take some time out a few days before and reflect upon what you really want to achieve.

Avoid previous resolutions; deciding to re-visit a past resolution sets you up for frustration and disappointment.

Don't run with the crowd and do

with the usual resolutions. Instead think about what you really want out of life.

Break your goal into a series of steps, focusing on creating sub-goals that are concrete, measurable, and time-based.

Tell your friends and family about your goals, thus increasing the fear of failure and eliciting support.

Regularly remind our self of the benefits associated with achieving your goals by creating a checklist of how life would be better once you obtain your aim.


Give yourself a small reward whenever you achieve a sub-goal, thus maintaining motivation and a sense of progress.

Make your plans and progress concrete by keeping a handwritten journal, completing a computer spreadsheet or covering a notice board with graphs or pictures.

Expect to revert to your old habits from time to time. Treat any failure as a temporary set-back rather than a reason to give up altogether.

So there it is – ten ways to make your resolutions more successful from a researcher who can actually claim to have New Year's resolutions down to a science. Wiseman's list does make sense. I suspect that my dislike of resolutions comes from their seeming uselessness at forcing people to make sustained changes in their lifestyles. The idea of a one-day dramatic overhaul of someone's life never seems to work. However, Wiseman's suggestions help avoid this

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Debunking the "Middle Class myth"

DEVIN TATRO
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Low-income students are one of the largest and least visible minorities at Bates College. Approximately 13% of enrolled Bates students qualify for a Federal Pell Grant, a cognate the Federal Government uses for low-income status. I urge the Bates community to address the specific needs of this student population.

A preface: As a student who received a generous financial aid package for Bates, friends told me they were jealous, that "I was lucky." I have often been made to feel like my aid is an unfair advantage and my merit-based fellowships result from my financial need.

Bates, we desperately need to clarify some confusion about class.

Financial Aid awards such as the Pell Grant allow for low-income students to attend Bates. However, these students must *work to equalize* themselves. That often means twenty hours of weekly work-study, wages that do not go toward dinner or online shopping, but rather to "staying afloat", paying tuition, affording prescription co-pays and doctors' visits or adequate winter outerwear. Yes, of course working to support ourselves *is* "the real world", but tension occurs when this real world hits us all at different times. Financially secure students often unknowingly reap the benefits of invisible networks and safety nets such as unpaid internships, a semester off from working, and knowing (or not knowing) that their tuition bill is being paid.

Most people worry about money, but I speculate that low-income students endure a tremendous burden marked by vicious cycles of guilt; upset at the amount of schoolwork they have because they cannot work enough, and then upset at the amount of hours they have to work because they cannot do schoolwork enough. This instability and emotional stress can be an intensely isolating experience, both at Bates and moreover in home communities. With family members just trying to survive while they are studying at an elite college; low income students start to ask "is it even fair that I'm here?"

Through the process of equalizing themselves with an at-large elite population, it can be more complicated for low-income students to make things happen. They get creative, whether by ordering all their books from libraries,

constantly scouring work opportunities or penny pinching for adequate winter footwear; it takes a lot of effort and energy to access resources, many of which are just a simple phone call away for the majority of Bates students.

Bates works hard to foster an equalized student body, but we need to make sure equality is not just an image. Students are living in different realities on this campus, a disparity partly constructed by privilege. I argue that discussions about class, whether privilege or poverty, are suppressed here in favor of the prevailing belief that we all belong to an (imagined) average, a phenomenon I'll call the "middle-class myth."

For example, in 2011, color-coded work-authorization cards were issued to students that indicated whether or not a student qualified for work-study. Immediately, these cards were called back and redistributed in a single color. The administration had realized its goof; accidentally highlighting income-inequality among students.

Should we acknowledge the fact that income-inequalities affect students? I for one will admit; attending one of the "most expensive schools in the nation" has been an intense social shock. In one traumatic experience, my conjoined AESOP groups went around in an introductory circle and "said what our parents did for work." I was embarrassed, and mostly horrified that my peers cared.

We need to give the low-income minority more voice and more support. I would love to hear your thoughts on this situation, but for now here are a few ideas:

An open discussion about class at Bates, and I mean class *at Bates*, working towards tangible outcomes such as:

(2) Financial advisors for students who might be struggling;

Low-income students are often paying significant parts of their tuition and living expenses themselves. This can be stressful, and often hard to manage. Many of them have nowhere to go or call when things get stretched thin, and for most, home is the last place to get help.

(3) Additional need-based programs for students, such as sharing and spreading resources in a clothing/supply basement for struggling students.

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Gray skies aren't always just clouds passing over

HANNAH ZELTNER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As most people know, the sky is blue. Blue sky, birds, sun, grass, all the components of jubilation and vitality almost always reside in New England. However, I wish to underline, asterisk, and italicize that keyword – almost – for that is a key reason why many New Englanders escape during the winter season to the sunlit haven that is somewhere like Florida. Although I enjoy the holidays, snowboarding, sledding and hot chocolate, that holiday joy can only preserve one's happiness for so long before a heavy gray mass conquers the sky's once blue hue as to suffocate and drive one into the callous, bitter ground.

It is depressing, because quite simply, seasonal depression is depressing. As many Bates students are no strangers to this feeling of interminable solitude, it is a facet of Maine life that is oftentimes ignored. Many people believe

themselves to be alone in struggling with depression, but in fact the opposite is true. According to the Bates Health Center, SAD affects about 5-13% of the population among college students in the Northeast, and the prevalence rate for the milder form of SAD, called Subsyndromal-SAD or "Winter Blues," is roughly 16-20% of the population. Symptoms include, but are not limited to: decreased mood and energy, difficulty waking in the morning, irritability, anxiety, inability to concentrate, difficulty performing tasks that are usually easy, low sex drive and carbohydrate craving.

These symptoms are easily ignorable because who doesn't love cookies and sleeping in? It is common for people to have difficulty concentrating on homework because one is preoccupied with other thoughts or activities. But if these symptoms persist and keep one from living some sort of life, then help is readily available with several treat-

ments and strategies.

Based on my own experience, the presence of friends, starting off the day early, and aerobic exercise are the most beneficial strategies at combating SAD. Another piece of advice that I found most helpful and most difficult to follow was to limit time alone, because it is in times of solitude that one feels most hopeless and vulnerable. I found myself wanting isolation, skipping out on parties, on meals, on anything deemed "fun." It was damaging, because by avoiding social activities, I was evading fun itself. I ran from fun, quite literally, as I continued to participate in track, which had become just another thing to do and not an activity that I truly loved. This is what depression does; it transforms your passions into trivial tasks.

In order to contribute more optimism to this discussion, treatment for SAD is readily available at the health center, no appointment needed. Light therapy has also been shown to allevi-

ate SAD symptoms. A lightbox is available on a first come first serve basis for 30 minutes daily from 7am to 5pm on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. I can vouch for this type of therapy, because I have my own personal one (which was fortunately covered by insurance for those interested.) Even for those who are already taking antidepressant medication, it provides an extra little boost to propel you through the long, yet ironically short, winter days.

And finally, I shall conclude this article with a passage from a poem that I found to be most applicable. The poem *Some People* by Wislawa Szymborska alludes to those struggling with war and violence. However I feel as though the final statements of the poem could also apply to one's own "internal war," that is, depression. Victory is not impossible, the enemy can be controlled, and you will be able to wake up in the morning without hesitation (well, maybe not that.)

*Some invisibility would
come in handy,
some grayish stoniness,
or, better yet, some non-
existence
for a shorter or a longer
while.*

*Something else will hap-
pen, only where and what.*

*Someone will come at
them, only when and who,
in how many shapes, with
what intentions.*

*If he has a choice,
maybe he won't be the en-
emy*

*and will let them live
some sort of life.*

—Translated by Stanislaw Baranczak and Clare Cavanagh

Sankofa: "Honoring Our Motherland Eternally"

BRIDGET FELDMANN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Sankofa is a student organization at Bates, created to provide a space for Black students to express themselves creatively. Four years ago, Sankofa was initiated by alum Linda Kugblenu who aspired to artistically celebrate the African diaspora through an annual performance production on the night of Martin Luther King Day. The club's namesake, Sankofa - read as San-kofa - is a word rooted in the Ghanaian Akan language meaning "it is not wrong to go back and for that which you have forgotten." The Akan believe that the past illuminates the present and that the search for knowledge is a life-long process. This year the club accomplishes this goal of artistic celebration through

the production's theme of "home." The theme, inspired by conversations among Bates students of the African diaspora, rose out of the attempt to understand where people of the African diaspora come from. The unanimous answer seemed and still appears simple-people of the African diaspora all find roots in Africa. But behind the veil of origin lies the complexity of the diaspora--displacement from the continent of Africa and the adjustment process.

This year's production, titled "Honoring Our Motherland Eternally" as conceptualized by senior Omosede Eholor '14, hopes to show the links of our drastic differences while unknotting hints of complication, family, comfort and discomfort. Bethel Kifle '14 and Jourdan Fanning '14, as acting directors and coordinators of the production, have worked tediously to compile

a collection of poems, dance numbers, and skits that reflect the vast perspective encompassed within different realms of the diaspora. The production provides both participants and audience the artistic space to explore personal and political notions of "home". The show examines the manner in which our experiences impact the way we interact with the world, and inform the quality of light by which our personal truths are illuminated. This year's theme is especially thought-provoking in an environment so geographically far from many of the participant's physical homes. The students involved in bringing the show together have navigated these conversations with tremendous intellect and grace, and are excited to be able to share their insights with the larger Bates community.

Promoting "safe spaces" for all Bates students

JOURDAN FANNING
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

My name is Jourdan Fanning '14 and I am one of the co-Founders of new Bates club, Bates United.

As of late, Jeremy Mack '16 (the other co-Founder of the club), myself, and many of our members have been asked questions about Bates United. Mainly, people want to know what goes on during our weekly meetings. Therefore, I think it's about time we start to share some of the content of these meetings with the greater Bates Community. No names will be revealed in quotes or anything of that nature - our meetings are and will *always* be safe spaces. Jeremy and I want to make sure that people who aren't able to make it to the meetings have a chance to see at least a snippet of the things we talk about and participate in the discourse.

So, at one of our last Bates United meeting, one of the things that stuck out as more pertinent, in my mind, was why people don't necessarily feel comfortable or within the realm of appropriateness going to meetings or events for some of the affinity and cultural clubs that exist on campus. Through our discussion, I've gathered that there are two sides to this issue. Those who identify as members of the group(s) which these clubs are affiliated with, and those who do not. Both sides of this issue have their own misconceptions.

The first seems to reside within the idea of a safe space. There are many situations in which people of minority/underrepresented groups seek refuge with people of similar backgrounds or social identifications. In my opinion, though, this is not innately a safe space, and the presence of people who aren't members of these social identities should not take away from the sanctity of a space that seeks to serve as a refuge from the turbulence of life outside of that space. Many people believe that a safe space is somewhere where you don't have to acknowledge or interact with difference - at least not on a large and discomforting scale. And I agree that this qualifies as a *type* of safe space. However, there is more to it. A student at last night's meeting said it best: "...a safe space should be somewhere where people are prepared and equipped to acknowledge and interact with difference; somewhere where they are comfortable with having exchanges with difference, learning from it, and having ignorance be made apparent in an environment where one isn't judged for simply not knowing something."

The cultural and affinity groups on campus seek to provide both of these types of safe spaces on campus. Understandably, there would be some confusion for those who don't identify as

(fill in with whatever group comes to mind), when you think about it. No one wants to go to a meeting where they're the one person who says the wrong thing and is pegged a racist, bigot, etc. So, rather than ask the questions that could lead to new knowledge, many would rather simply hide their ignorance.

However, on the other side, many of these groups go above and beyond to provide opportunities for people outside these specific identities to learn and become a part of discourses that educate on the cultures, experiences, and lives of people who *do* identify within these social/cultural/affinity groups. As a former co-Chair of one of the cultural groups on campus, I know that one of the goals of these groups is to share and exchange parts of cultures. What's the point of a school that advocates so adamantly for diversity, when there are no exchanges?

Now, when it comes to solutions, many more factors than just the ones discussed in our meetings deter from true social cohesion, but a couple of things that could be done in this specific situation are:

Groups on campus - every semester or so, have a meeting where you invite new people to come *just* for the purposes of sharing with them what your organization does, who you are, how you feel on certain issues, etc. This will help people feel more comfortable with joining clubs even if they don't identify with the cultures/social identities/affinities that the groups are built around.

Everyone on campus - step outside of your comfort zones. I know it's easier said than done, in some instances, but the most certain way to learn is to try. Our school was founded on virtues of diversity and equality. We all know that, and as members of the Bates community, we subscribe to those ideals. It's time to move into the next phase of diversity, where it becomes less of a conceptual discourse and more of a way of life. This takes trying new things, meeting new people, and doing new things.

Be it, this is what I personally got from the night's conversation. I'm not saying that any one way of thinking is innately right or wrong; merely providing a different viewpoint in a discourse I believe should be a campus-wide one.

So, thoughts?

Everyone is invited to come and be a part of Bates United weekly meetings, where we will discuss various divisions on campus, and the resulting experiences of people included and excluded from particular groups, and attempt to create and implement solutions to these problems, and work towards social cohesion and equality at Bates College.

Trivia Question

ANSWER AND WIN FREE HOCKEY TICKETS!!!

HOW OLD IS BATES' WINTER CARNIVAL TRADITION?

Last issue's answer: She Doesn't Like Guthries.

If you answer the question correctly, you will be entered in a drawing for four FREE tickets to this weekend's Portland Pirates hockey game at the Androscoggin Bank Coliseum! Please email Helen Chyz at hchyz@bates.edu with your answers before Friday.

Comic Corner

Kei Matsunami



RESOLUTION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

pitfall by instead making the New Year's resolution a stepping stone towards change, rather than having the resolution be the change itself. So, for those who have managed to stick to their resolutions thus far: congratulations! And

for those who have broken their resolutions, or like me thought of them as a futile exercise in willpower: I hope that this article has helped to change your view on the untapped potential of New Year's resolutions.

New Digital Media Studio will open doors for all Bates students

JULIA MONGEAU
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The wait is over: after months of planning and renovating, Pettigrew Hall officially opened its doors to the Bates community this past Friday. The new and improved Pettigrew is filled with beautifully renovated offices, classrooms and lounges. And to top off the excitement, the new Digital Media Studio is now complete and ready for use by the students and faculty.

Colin Kelley, a Digital Media Specialist, comments that "It has been amazing to sit in my office and listen to people as they enter the space - anyone who remembers it before is simply blown away by the changes." These amazing changes include private and spacious editing suites, a new high speed fiber-optic network, a TV studio and a strategic design. There is also a fresh new iMac lab, complementing the Macs available in Roger Williams.

The new Digital Media Studio is open to anyone with a Bates ID - though the TV studio and editing suites require key card access. That said, anyone can contact Kelley about getting trained to use the equipment. Additionally, a professional staff is available to help during business hours, and appointments can be scheduled for help with filming an interview or recording voice overs.

Part of the strategic new design of the studio allows for "collaboration." It is an open space with a central hallway that connects all the services. Also, staff



Digital media assistant Josh Ajamu '14 works in the new TV studio.
JULIA MONGEAU/ THE BATES STUDENT

offices are conveniently located near their areas of expertise, allowing for easy access to professional help.

Kelley stresses that the new studio really is for the whole campus community. Though a liberal arts college, all departments can find ways to incorporate media projects into their curriculum, and many already have. The rhetoric department is one field that has already taken advantage of the media studios in Roger Williams, and will continue to incorporate media projects into their

curriculum with the new facilities in Pettigrew. "The iMac lab will be very useful as rhetoric deepens our involvement in screen studies," comments rhetoric professor Charles Nero.

Danny Rivkin, a senior and rhetoric major, notes that she was one of the first students in the department to incorporate media projects into the classroom in one of Professor Nero's class. Since then, all of her rhetoric classes have included the option of creating a video essay. "There is no escaping video

essays," she jokes.

Rivkin is also a DMS assistant. She is excited about the new studio, and not only because the equipment and software improved. The spacious facilities will make it easier for groups to work on projects and for the DMS assistants to complete their work. "With the new studios people will be separate enough not to interfere with each other's projects, but still close enough to ask questions and get opinions," says Rivkin.

Rivkin believes the best part about

these new facilities is the opportunities it provides to the students. "Having this type of technology readily available, along with people who can teach you how to use it, is an invaluable resource," she mentions. Bates provides students with an abundance of resources and assistance already, whether it is toward academics or career planning, to name a few. The new studio will only enhance some of the services offered to extend learning beyond the classroom and promote a really unique learning environment.

Rivkin adds that, "It isn't an easy task, it is a learned skill, and the fact that people are able to learn it at a smaller school is fantastic." Kelley encourages anyone who is curious to take a look at the new space and learn how to use the new equipment. "I can't stress enough that everyone is welcome at the DMS. One of the great benefits of a liberal arts education is the freedom to try new things," says Kelley. The new studio will provide new opportunities for the students and faculty at Bates, opportunities that allow the campus to showcase their skills and creativity. Kelley sums up the benefits of the studio when he says, "The reality is: digital media is thrown at us every day, so having the opportunity to make it yourself - even just once - can be a very empowering experience that can lead to all kinds of incredible experiences inside and outside the actual production of digital media."

In the heat of Winter Carnival

MARY ANNE BODNAR
MANAGING NEWS EDITOR

If you think back to your first Bates tour, you'll remember a guide quickly covering up his disclosure of winter climate in Maine with a lengthy but genuinely excited description of Winter Carnival. Activities such as ice skating, Skill and Grill, Puddle Jump and snowshoeing sounded so charming that you thought, "Maine winters can't possibly be so bad!"

At Bates, I'm happy to say, Winter Carnival is not the three-day, thrown-together booze fest for juniors irritated to be back from abroad that it might be at other colleges. Here it is a 94-year old annual tradition celebrating our ability to laugh and enjoy life in the most dreary of circumstances.

This year, campus organizations such as Chase Hall Committee and Bates Outing Club have worked hard to organize a festival full of creative competitions, group events, and snowy weather sports.

While there have been modern activity additions such as Skill and Grill in recent years, the purpose and effect of Winter Carnival has remained the same throughout its many years on the Bates campus.

At the first Carnival in 1920, activities included ice tennis, a snowshoe race across campus and relay races on Lake Andrews. Years later a snow sculpture competition was added to the mix, and students eventually became so competitive that sculptures required wire framings.

This semester's BOC Vice President Alex Weissman '15 hopes this year's re-introduction of the event on Thursday revives the tradition: "I would love to bring back that (sculpture competition) tradition, and I hope to see some awesome sculptures this year."

For anyone who feels that the history's competitiveness has been lost in today's Winter Carnival, he or she hopefully visited Monday night's WhisperLite Iron Chef tournament and Tuesday night's competitive "traying." Bates students today may not have class tug of war competitions on the frozen Puddle, but Outing Club has made sure we have other ways to compete against each other.

Although it was not included in the first Winter Carnivals, Puddle Jump is seen as the classic Carnival tradition. Completely run by the BOC, this event offers students the opportunity to take

their yearly splash (rarely does anyone have the dexterity to "jump" into the icy waters of the Puddle. Since this is not a task commonly performed by sane human beings, the BOC organizers take extra precaution.

Alex elaborated; "There is always the risk of people falling through the ice or getting too cold. We always have plenty of people helping students get out of the water, and bonfire with chai and cookies are waiting next to Page to warm people up."

The efficiency of this event should not be underrated. While standing in line can seem to take forever, onlookers are always impressed by how frequently these BOC helpers get students out of the water. That's not to say that the event doesn't appear ridiculous to the casual onlooker, because it absolutely does.

When asked which activity they were most looking forward to, Alex Weissman and Josh Zimmer agreed; "Puddle jump is such a classic part of the Winter Carnival and you don't even have to participate to enjoy it. It's a lot of fun to watch and see the creative costumes some people dress up in, but I would encourage everyone to try it at least once in their Bates career."

The only unfortunate condition of Winter Carnival is that a few of the activities are "weather permitting." To actually have a great time falling into Lake Andrews, the air must actually be frigid enough for the ice to be able to hold us up. With weather predictions placing temperatures in the high thirties on Friday, BOC members will be forced to make a difficult decision regarding the afternoon jump.

While many activities are organized by Outing Club during Winter Carnival, many other campus organizations contribute to the fun and games. Chase Hall Committee organizes the 90's dance (80's dance with extra denim), family fun inflatables and big prize bingo, and Shred club organized a trip to the Roller Dome.

Winter Carnival can be overwhelming for freshman experiencing it for the first time, but the best promise that you can make to yourself is to try a new activity. This goal actually applies to most Bates students. I don't believe that many Batesies have been competitive traying in their youth, or even skating in Underhill arena since coming to Bates. This week is our chance to take a quick mental break from early semester work and complete the usually-arduous task of appreciating the climate we live in.


warm weather, he misses the genuine friendliness of the locals.

Finally, Dean Sawyer points to an important advantage of returning from a fall semester abroad, "students can quickly engage with their winter courses, summer job search, and planning for senior year." Jumping back into Bates can be scary but doing so will help students work through their re-entry blues and re-embrace life in Lewiston.

RE-ENTRY

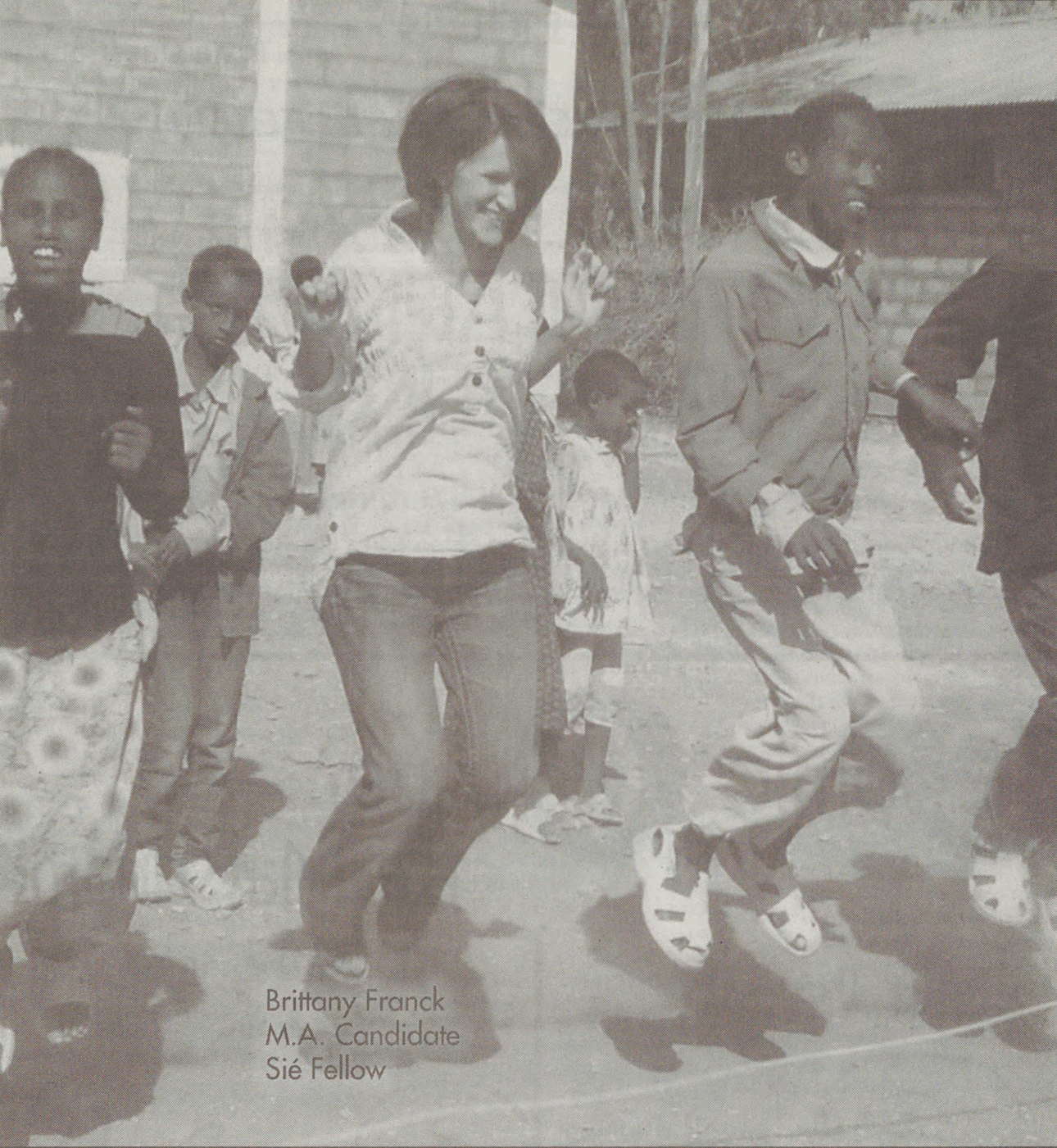
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

titude toward new people in Shang Hai and noted that local students were eager to take him and other international students out to dinner and befriend them. He hopes this attitude will become more pervasive at Bates. Sarah Cancelarich '15 spent the semester in Samoa and, in addition to the sunshine and



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Brittany Franck
M.A. Candidate
Sié Fellow

Brittany Franck is a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer who served in Ethiopia working to improve health care access and awareness for people with disabilities. Now she's a Sié Fellow at the Josef Korbel School working alongside world renowned faculty doing relevant research on today's most pressing global issues.

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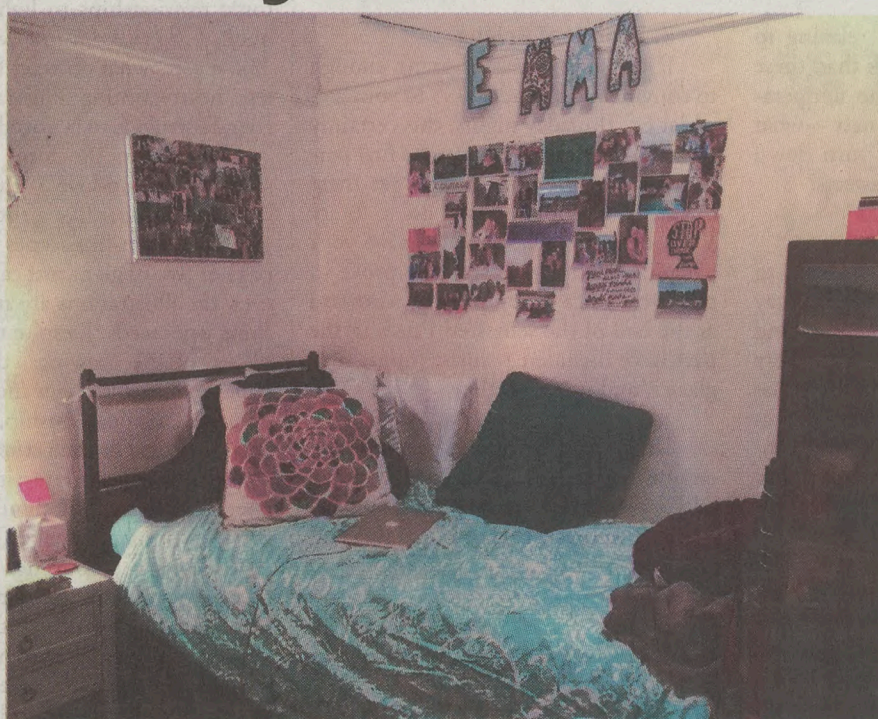
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Bates Cribs Homemade décor brings natural vibe to Hayes House



HANNAH BAYER
STAFF WRITER

This week, I had the pleasure of interviewing sophomores Cailene Gunn and Emma Mattson, two girls with their own, individual style. Upon entering their room in Hayes House, one will find a wide array of homemade pictures, art, jewelry, frames, and collages. In her spare time, Gunn likes to create decorative pieces and colorful artwork to put on her walls. By her bed, Gunn has pictures and a canvas she created, as well as photos with friends from back home and at Bates. Homemade flowers hang by her window, which keep her room filled with the perfect amount of color.



It is safe to say their room gives off a bohemian feel: colorful but refined, and very homedade.

Gunn explained that she spends a lot of her spare time creating, especially over the summer. "It's a hobby of mine."

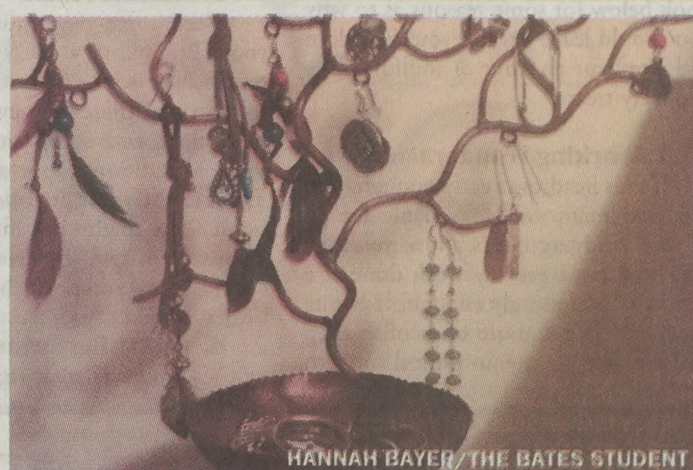
This pastime has helped transform her room into an environment in which she feels most comfortable. One creative piece of art that stands out is an intricate dream catcher made of twigs, beads, and feathers. Without a doubt, Gunn spends a lot of time making the signs, collages, and art work in her room. It is hard to believe that almost all of her artwork is homedade.

Gunn and Mattson's style of the room was inspired by their desire to create an atmosphere that would make

them feel relaxed and cozy.

"I spend a lot of time in my room, especially when I'm writing essays. I wanted it to feel like home," says Gunn. "I wanted a room where I felt like I could express myself."

The comfort and personality Gunn wanted to achieve through her room is definitely successful. The homedade artwork and jewelry represents her interests and style, which definitely add to the home aspect of the room. Her desk, where she spends time completing assignments, also helps set a relaxing and personal environment for her to do work. Also on the desk, Gunn keeps a row of Mason jars that she decorated by filling them with rocks that she has collected. The jars add a very personal



HANNAH BAYER/THE BATES STUDENT

touch and give insight to Gunn's interest in natural materials as a geology major.

Her desk also has a little tea station, which she raved about. It is essential to creating the expressive, yet comfortable, atmosphere that Gunn enjoys in her dorm room.

When it comes to Gunn and Mattson's sides of the room, the two contrast in style. Gunn's half is colorful, with many pillows, patterned blankets from Anthropologie, and a rug from thrift shops. Mattson's side is simpler, adorned with a bright blue patterned blanket and a small, white bedside table from Urban Outfitters. Her style is more girly and organized.

However, to bridge the gap be-

tween the two different styles, Mattson has wall art made by Gunn and a throw pillow similar to the colorful style her roommate embodies.

"We have very different styles," states Gunn. "I actually got the pillow to tie the sides of the room together."

Despite the distinctive style preferences of the two roommates, Mattson's taste still shines through. It is clear through the two halves of the room that Gunn and Mattson are two unique people living together, but they have found a way to unite their styles, helping allow their room to appear as a cohesive unit.

How to dress for the decade: The 90s

ASHLEY BRYANT
MANAGING ARTS & LEISURE EDITOR

We're halfway through Winter Carnival week and we all know what's to come this Saturday night: 90s Dance. But before you go venture into the racks of Salvation Army and Goodwill for what you think is "so 90s," look below to review some common misconceptions and get suggestions on how to dress for this desired decade.

Yes, 90s had flannels. The outdoorsmen look was very much in style for men while women would sport a long dress, a flannel, and edgy jewelry. Somehow the casual and comfy shirt became the trend of the decade. Many tried to add flannels to their daily attire for more of a grungy look, as worn by popular band Nirvana.

Dance Dress: Wear jean shorts with dark tights and combat boots. Add a flannel and throw in a cross necklace in there for Buffy's sake.

FLANNELS

Do you have some funky and brightly colored workout gear? Yes! Great, save it for 80s dance next fall. The 90s had neon but not the way current high fashion portrays it to have. This decade's interpretation of neon was black and gray geometric designs with some of your basic pinks, purples, blues, and yellows.

Dance Dress: Go for blotchy and loosely fitted leggings with a large windbreaker.

NEON



Much to our disbelief, 90s jeans were not distressed or skinny, nor were they too pretty. For both males and females, jeans were high-waisted, loose, and gave the body little shape. There was a ton of fabric that tapered down to your ankles. In terms of washes, they were not subtle. Some were very light and marble-like (think the marble pattern on composition notebooks) while others were so dark it looked like bright indigo.

Dance Dress: Rock some denim-on-denim like Britney and Justin years ago. Or, better yet, copy these Beverly Hills, 90210 stars with their jeans and oversized, colorful tees. Add some white Keds as the cherry on top of this 90s classic look.

JEANS



Need more inspiration? Try adding these 90s classics into your dance get-up:

Scrunchies

Crimped hair

Bandanas

Overalls

Tattoo chokers

Shell necklaces

Also, you can always turn to some classic 90s shows for some more everyday fashion of this beloved decade, such as *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, *Full House*, *Boy Meets World*, *Friends*, *The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air*, and *Saved by the Bell*.

So dress to the decade this upcoming Saturday and rock out to your favorite 90s classics.

A perfect day for a plunge

Preview to Puddle Jump 2014



LOGAN GREENBLATT/THE BATES STUDENT

REBECCA BASSELL
STAFF WRITER

It's that special time of year again — sub-zero temperatures, over ten inches of snow on the ground, and the ever-present possibility of wiping out on ice sheets as you walk to class. Seems like the perfect weather for a dip in the Puddle! Disagree? Well you're definitely in the minority. At least you are next week when the Outing Club hosts its annual Puddle Jump as part of the Winter Carnival.

Since 1975, members of the Outing Club have cut a square in the icy Lake Andrews (more affectionately known students as "The Puddle") while Batesies, dressed in costumes, sportswear, or nothing at all, dive into the water's icy depths. This year, the Puddle Jump will take place on Friday, January 17th from 3:30 to 5:30 in the afternoon and is sure to be met with craziness, camaraderie and, of the course, the chilling cold of a Maine winter.

So what's the appeal of freezing outside with your classmates?

"It seemed like a lot of fun when I was a freshman last year, and I also just wanted to see how cold it really was," says sophomore ThuyMy "Tee" Do '16, who plans on taking the dive again this year.

There's certainly a sense of achieve-

ment among those who brave the frigid weather and decide to take the plunge.

Of her experience last year, sophomore Tara Das '16 says that it was all "a giant adrenaline rush and I didn't feel the cold! My friends and I lined up pretty early and we were the fourth group in."

For those who are less inclined to take the trip, there is also the option of cheering on your friends and fellow Batesies from the side of the lake. However, most would recommend jumping in at least once during your four years at Bates, even if it's intimidating. "You never know until you try! I was very nervous my first year" says junior Julia Ofman '15 of her Puddle Jump participation. For those who share in her uncertainty, she remarks that she was "worried by the time I got to my senior year that if I had done it and loved it, I would have regretted not doing it in the previous years. Just go for it! Also, wear socks and Teevas - they're a great help."

Regardless of whether or not you're jumping into the puddle on January 17th, it's sure to be a fun event for both spectators and participants alike! As one of the symbolic staples of Bates' Outing Club as well as school-wide traditions, this year's plunge is sure to be an event to remember... or one to catch a cold from.

Add some sweets and songs to your Thursday night

SARAH WAINSHAL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With classes up and running, the stress of reading, papers, and tests rests heavily on Batesies' shoulders. However, before you find a comfortable spot in the library, or anywhere warm for that matter, consider an alternate location to unwind and finish your assignments. This ever-elusive goal can be accomplished on Thursday nights in the Benjamin E. Mays Center for the Village Club Series, or better known as VCS. Look below for some reasons as to why you should leave behind your boredom and stress for an hour of soulful music and tasty treats.

1. Working Wonders

If you head over early enough, you can find many tables available for all of your studying needs. Now, you may ask, how can I get any work done at a concert? Interestingly enough, it's quite simple. VCS has more of a coffee shop environment than your typical concert.

The undivided attention of all audience members is not required, thus Batesies can concentrate on their work alongside some melodic background music.

2. Complimentary Cookies and Chai

There is nothing more relaxing to help to wind down the week than these tasty treats, especially as the temperature drops. And, let's be honest – what kind of Batesie is going to turn down this savory combination of sweets?

3. Melodic Music

Need some new music to add to your iTunes library? VCS is a great way to discover some fantastic bands and solo artists. There are new artists every week along with some fan favorites that make a traditional appearance, such as Tall Heights, Darlingside, and Ryanhood. You might just find your new favorite musician, but you'll never discover them if you don't show up!

4. Pretty Performers

Yes, you read that right. I'll be the

first to admit that when Darlingside came to perform, in addition to their amazing vocals, they sure weren't bad to look at. Judging from the reactions from the people around me, they shared the same sentiment.

5. Practical Prizes

If the above reasons aren't enough to convince you to add VCS to your calendar on Thursday nights, this certainly will. Prizes are given out on the first performance of the semester, so get there early. In addition, if you go to every VCS, or a fair majority, and have your passport filled with stamps to prove it, then you get a fancy prize as a reward at the end of the semester! Prizes in the past have included t-shirts, mugs, sunglasses, and water bottles.

So, instead of sitting in a wooden cubical on the third floor of the library, add some VCS lovin' to your Thursday nights and break free of boredom. You won't regret it.

Sakugawa's abstract book illustrates raw human emotions of "Friend-Love"

TRISTAN BROSSAY de DIOS
ASSISTANT ARTS AND LEISURE EDITOR

Comic book artist and writer Yumi Sakugawa brings the beauty behind platonic relationships to light in her first book, *I Think I Am in Friend-Love with You*, a somewhat abstract but nevertheless heartwarming illustration of one friend's struggle to be loved – as a friend.

Written in the form of a confession (of "friend-love"), the book itself functions almost like a silent film, with several cartoon-like scenes followed by a page or two of giant text captions. However, the illustrations are really the only thing one needs. Despite the utter simplicity of the drawings, the illustrated panels convey stronger messages – loss, grief, joy, companionship, among others – than any of the text ever could.

"It's very accurate, it's something people don't say but should say," states first-year student Amelia Green.

Sakugawa sets up her story in such a way that neither the images nor the text seem to overpower the other, instead weaving them together into a cute sweater of friendship. Lines like "I want us to @reply to each other's tweets / And reblog each other's tumblr reblogs / Because what you find to be beautiful, funny and heartbreaking in this world / is what I find to be beautiful, funny and heartbreaking in this world", coupled with cartoon images of both tumblr and Twitter, just about sum up the direction of the entire book.

The world of *Friend-Love* is perhaps the most idiosyncratic and defining part of the book. The world itself is obviously our own, reflecting not only our worries and priorities as 21st century humans, but also our technology, social media, and culture in general; but the inhab-

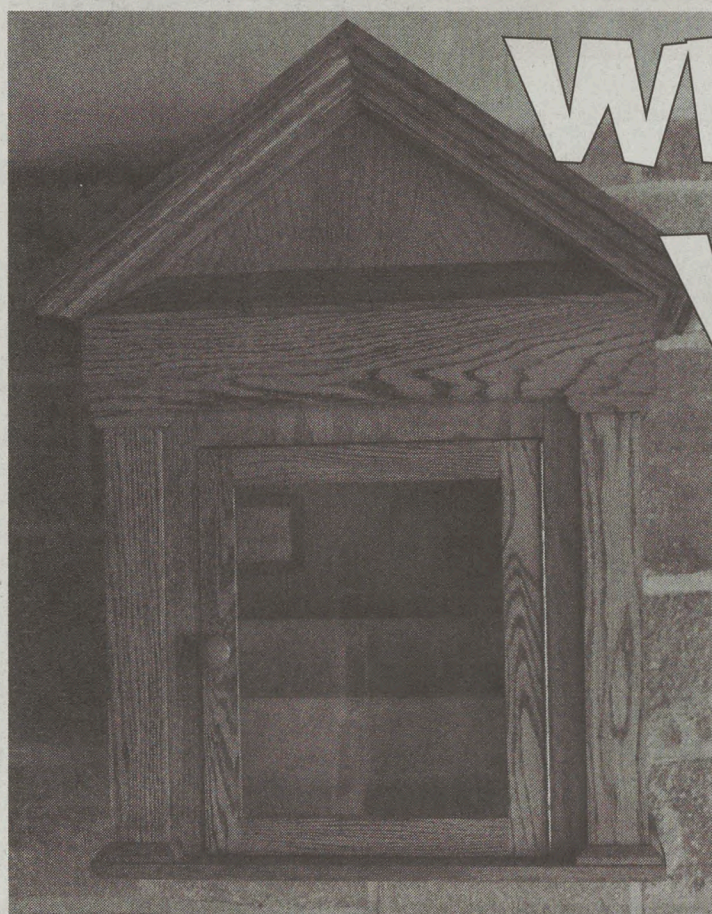
itants aren't human, or at least don't appear to be. Indeed, all the characters look like they walked out of *Where the Wild Things Are*. It doesn't matter that the protagonist and narrator, a one-eyed, furry something without a mouth, looks the way he or she – gender doesn't appear to be obviously expressed in the book either – does, because the setting – that is, the mundane, the makings of a 21st century lazy afternoon – builds and supports the plot just as much, if not more than, the story's characters.

"I like that it looks handmade. It has a nice, honest quality to it, and the drawings are interesting," says Mary Schwalbe '17.

At its core, the book is adorable, a little tragic, but definitely worthwhile. Sakugawa's writing style is bred for the age of Millennials, sometimes reading more like a post on tumblr than an actual comic book. The message and the tone are not hard to grasp: this is a book written for everyone, and thus designed to be accessible to all ages, despite its obvious tailoring toward Gen Y.


"[To me,] It was kind of a weird intersection of technology and human emotion," states Nathan Moreau '17, "but it ends with kind of a strange twist that goes back to a time before tweets and Facebook chat, and all kinds of instant communication. It seems kind of flat at the beginning but takes some unexpected turns."

Sakugawa might not have captured the voice of a generation or even managed to have written the book of the month, but the story she conveys is still worth picking up and sharing, if for no reason other than partaking in the cute yet troubled reality-turned-fiction of *Friend-Love*.



WHERE'S WHAT?!

Every week, we publish a photo of something around the Bates campus. Try and guess its location! Answers will be published in the following edition.

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Winter Carnival Week

Events Calendar

Wednesday, January 15th – Tuesday, January 21st

Wednesday, Jan. 15	Thursday, Jan. 16	Friday, Jan. 17	Saturday, Jan. 18	Sunday, Jan. 19	Monday, Jan. 20	Tuesday, Jan. 21
Family Fun and Inflatables @ 4 pm – 8 pm, Gray Cage	Lost Valley Ski Trip @ 4:30 – 9 pm	Torch Run @ 1 pm, BOC Lean-To to Puddle	Captain Phillips Bates Filmboard @ 2 pm & 7:30 pm, Olin 104	Captain Phillips Bates Filmboard @ 2 pm & 4:30 pm, Olin 104	Martin Luther King Day -No Classes-	
Skill and Grill @ 5 – 7 pm, 280 and Mt. David	Tyler Mills poetry @ 6:30 pm, Muskie Archives	Puddle Jump, 3:30 – 5:30 pm, Lake Andrews	90s Dance @ 10 pm – 2 am, Library Arcade	Poetry Performance Art @ 3 – 5 pm, Commons 221 – 222	MLK Keynote @ 9 – 11 am, Gomes Chapel	
All Group A cappella Show @ 10 pm, Alumni Gym	VCS presents student performers @ 9 pm, Benjamin Mays Center	Captain Phillips Bates Filmboard @ 7:30 pm, Olin 104		Martin Luther King Memorial Workshop Service @ 7 pm, Gomes Chapel	Mays Debate @ 1 pm, Olin Concert Hall	
Pause @ 9 pm, Gomes Chapel	Karaoke and Refreshments @ 11 pm – 1 am, Little Room	Poker Tournament @ 8 pm, Commons			Sankofa @ 7:30 pm, Schaeffer Theater	
		Late Night Breakfast 10 pm – 12 am, Commons				

How bandwagon fans can improve their image

NOAH LEVICK
STAFF WRITER

Bandwagon fans are like a cancer, metastasizing with alarming alacrity and transience. Perhaps my disdain for bandwagoners is primarily due to my inability as a dedicated fan to understand the various motivations for joining a crowd of fellow fair-weather fans.

To me, the rationale for suddenly supporting a successful team is pretty transparent: "fans," nearly all of whom like to win, would prefer to join a flourishing fan base than stick with a miserable one. But regardless of one's

reasons for identifying as a supporter of a prosperous team and their seemingly inevitable tendency to engage in this behavior, I believe that asking these individuals to at least acknowledge their bandwagon nature is a reasonable request.

I am sure that most sports fans are familiar with a scenario involving an unmistakably oblivious fan lamely attempting to appear knowledgeable despite a cringe worthy dearth of actual sports acumen. I unfortunately can't empathize with the plight of the ignorant fan in this situation, since that's never been me. Still, I am confident that this dynamic is prevalent amongst most

fans. I believe that such an unnatural desire to seem like a true fan is actually unnecessary.

As a self-professed (accurately, in my view) real fan, I know that I would prefer if these insecure bandwagoners simply admitted that they knew very little about the sport in question. In general, I feel that genuine people are more enjoyable to be with, and this is especially true when it comes to bandwagon fans. For those wary of being judged or ridiculed, know that such a reaction is only probable towards fans who refuse to identify their actual fandom with any honor or honesty.

Men's Hockey

Men's hockey poised for second half breakout after win over MIT

DOUG STEINBERG
MANAGING SPORTS EDITOR

Bates men's hockey destroyed the MIT Engineers in a 7-2 barn burner last Friday, demonstrating that they have the potential to be one of the most dangerous teams on the ice in the second half of the season.

The Bobcats' offense exploded out of the gates and never let up, as senior forward and alternate captain Sean Thomas led the effort with a hat trick and an assist. Senior captain Chris DeBrase added a tally in the first period while collecting three assists to lead the

team. "We came out firing versus MIT," noted DeBrase, "Our top line was able to score early and quickly which got the momentum on our side. It was nice to see a full 60 minute effort."

Senior goaltender Matthew Mosca turned in a solid performance in net, totaling 18 saves on 20 shots while receiving the win.

On Saturday, the Bobcats played host to the Lewiston Police Department's squad in an exhibition match. Bates won the friendly match 7-5 in a surprisingly competitive contest.

"It was really fun to play the cops," added DeBrase, "It wasn't physical or anything so it was a nice change of pace.

It was also great to get to know some of them after the game."

The Bates student population can only hope that the goodwill established in the game will translate into leniency for off campus parties in the future.

The Bobcats have a short home stand coming up this weekend with games against St. Joseph's College on Thursday night and Southern New Hampshire University on Saturday afternoon.

Men's & Women's Alpine Skiing

Alpine skiing begins season with strong performance in Stowe, Vermont

KYLE OLEHNIK
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

After 10 months of off season training for the 2014 campaign, the Bates men's and women's Alpine ski team finally hit the slopes in Stowe, Vermont at the University of Vermont Carnival. Even without leader Emily Bamford '15, who is looking to qualify for the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi as a member of the Australian National team, the women had a very solid day, placing fifth among 13 teams in the event. Although the men's squad had five racers who did not finish, they combined with the women for 95 points, which was good for eighth place.

"In ski racing DNFs [Did Not Finish] are part of the sport and there was a fairly high DNF rate for the entire field. We unfortunately had a higher percentage of them," noted head coach Rogan Connell. "Overall it's not a concern as our men have been skiing very well in training and have been beating many of the top finishers in the early season FIS races," he added.

Pacing the women were junior Emily Hayes who placed ninth out of 67 racers and classmate Avril Dunleavy

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Add some sweets and songs to your Thursday night

SARAH WAINSHAL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With classes up and running, the stress of reading, papers, and tests rests heavily on Batesies' shoulders. However, before you find a comfortable spot in the library, or anywhere warm for that matter, consider an alternate location to unwind and finish your assignments. This ever-elusive goal can be accomplished on Thursday nights in the Benjamin E. Mays Center for the Village Club Series, or better known as VCS. Look below for some reasons as to why you should leave behind your boredom and stress for an hour of soulful music and tasty treats.

1. Working Wonders

If you head over early enough, you can find many tables available for all of your studying needs. Now, you may ask, how can I get any work done at a concert? Interestingly enough, it's quite simple. VCS has more of a coffee shop environment than your typical concert.

The undivided attention of all audience members is not required, thus Batesies can concentrate on their work alongside some melodic background music.

2. Complimentary Cookies and Chai

There is nothing more relaxing to help to wind down the week than these tasty treats, especially as the temperature drops. And, let's be honest – what kind of Batesie is going to turn down this savory combination of sweets?

3. Melodic Music

Need some new music to add to your iTunes library? VCS is a great way to discover some fantastic bands and solo artists. There are new artists every week along with some fan favorites that make a traditional appearance, such as Tall Heights, Darlingside, and Ryanhood. You might just find your new favorite musician, but you'll never discover them if you don't show up!

4. Pretty Performers

Yes, you read that right. I'll be the

first to admit that when Darlingside came to perform, in addition to their amazing vocals, they sure weren't bad to look at. Judging from the reactions from the people around me, they shared the same sentiment.

5. Practical Prizes

If the above reasons aren't enough to convince you to add VCS to your calendar on Thursday nights, this certainly will. Prizes are given out on the first performance of the semester, so get there early. In addition, if you go to every VCS, or a fair majority, and have your passport filled with stamps to prove it, then you get a fancy prize as a reward at the end of the semester! Prizes in the past have included t-shirts, mugs, sunglasses, and water bottles.

So, instead of sitting in a wooden cubical on the third floor of the library, add some VCS lovin' to your Thursday nights and break free of boredom. You won't regret it.

Sakugawa's abstract book illustrates raw human emotions of "Friend-Love"

TRISTAN BROSSAY de DIOS
ASSISTANT ARTS AND LEISURE EDITOR

Comic book artist and writer Yumi Sakugawa brings the beauty behind platonic relationships to light in her first book, *I Think I Am in Friend-Love with You*, a somewhat abstract but nevertheless heartwarming illustration of one friend's struggle to be loved – as a friend.

Written in the form of a confession (of "friend-love"), the book itself functions almost like a silent film, with several cartoon-like scenes followed by a page or two of giant text captions. However, the illustrations are really the only thing one needs. Despite the utter simplicity of the drawings, the illustrated panels convey stronger messages – loss, grief, joy, companionship, among others – than any of the text ever could.

"It's very accurate, it's something people don't say but should say," states first-year student Amelia Green.

Sakugawa sets up her story in such a way that neither the images nor the text seem to overpower the other, instead weaving them together into a cute sweater of friendship. Lines like "I want us to @reply to each other's tweets / And reblog each other's tumblr reblogs / Because what you find to be beautiful, funny and heartbreaking in this world / is what I find to be beautiful, funny and heartbreaking in this world", coupled with cartoon images of both tumblr and Twitter, just about sum up the direction of the entire book.

The world of *Friend-Love* is perhaps the most idiosyncratic and defining part of the book. The world itself is obviously our own, reflecting not only our worries and priorities as 21st century humans, but also our technology, social media, and culture in general; but the inhab-

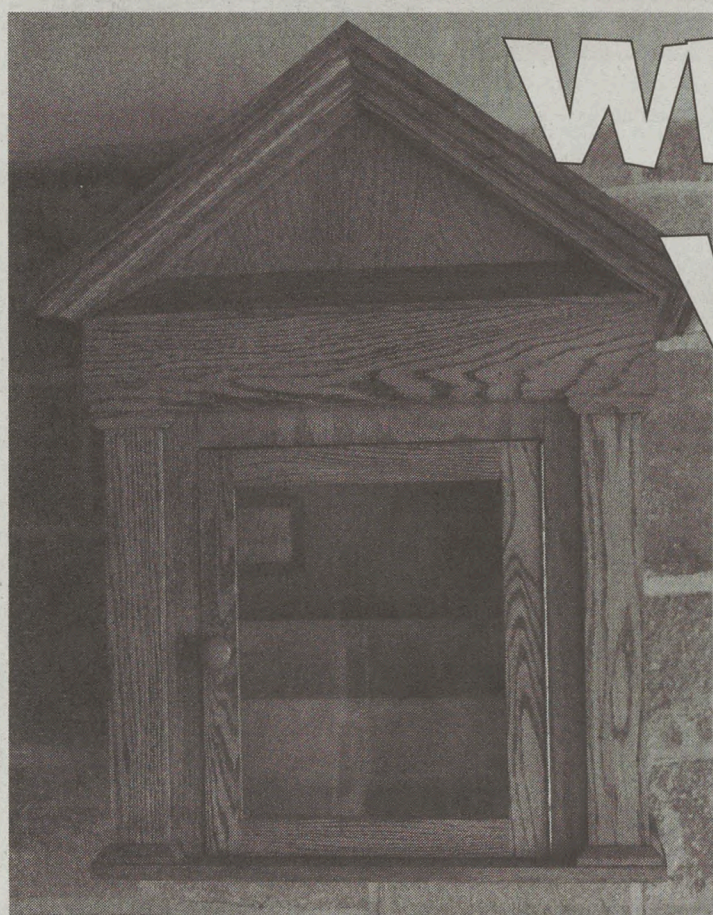
itants aren't human, or at least don't appear to be. Indeed, all the characters look like they walked out of *Where the Wild Things Are*. It doesn't matter that the protagonist and narrator, a one-eyed, furry something without a mouth, looks the way he or she – gender doesn't appear to be obviously expressed in the book either – does, because the setting – that is, the mundane, the makings of a 21st century lazy afternoon – builds and supports the plot just as much, if not more than, the story's characters.

"I like that it looks handmade. It has a nice, honest quality to it, and the drawings are interesting," says Mary Schwalbe '17.

At its core, the book is adorable, a little tragic, but definitely worthwhile. Sakugawa's writing style is bred for the age of Millennials, sometimes reading more like a post on tumblr than an actual comic book. The message and the tone are not hard to grasp: this is a book written for everyone, and thus designed to be accessible to all ages, despite its obvious tailoring toward Gen Y.


"[To me,] It was kind of a weird intersection of technology and human emotion," states Nathan Moreau '17, "but it ends with kind of a strange twist that goes back to a time before tweets and Facebook chat, and all kinds of instant communication. It seems kind of flat at the beginning but takes some unexpected turns."

Sakugawa might not have captured the voice of a generation or even managed to have written the book of the month, but the story she conveys is still worth picking up and sharing, if for no reason other than partaking in the cute yet troubled reality-turned-fiction of *Friend-Love*.



WHERE'S WHAT?!

Every week, we publish a photo of something around the Bates campus. Try and guess its location! Answers will be published in the following edition.

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Winter Carnival Week

Events Calendar

Wednesday, January 15th – Tuesday, January 21st

Wednesday, Jan. 15	Thursday, Jan. 16	Friday, Jan. 17	Saturday, Jan. 18	Sunday, Jan. 19	Monday, Jan. 20	Tuesday, Jan. 21
Family Fun and Inflatables @ 4 pm – 8 pm, Gray Cage	Lost Valley Ski Trip @ 4:30 – 9 pm	Torch Run @ 1 pm, BOC Lean-To to Puddle	<i>Captain Phillips</i> Bates Filmboard @ 2 pm & 7:30 pm, Olin 104	<i>Captain Phillips</i> Bates Filmboard @ 2 pm & 4:30 pm, Olin 104	<i>Martin Luther King Day</i> -No Classes-	
Skill and Grill @ 5 – 7 pm, 280 and Mt. David	Tyler Mills po- etry @ 6:30 pm, Muskie Archives	Puddle Jump, 3:30 – 5:30 pm, Lake Andrews	90s Dance @ 10 pm – 2 am, Library Arcade	Poetry Perfor- mance Art @ 3 – 5 pm, Commons 221 – 222	MLK Keynote @ 9 – 11 am, Gomes Chapel	
All Group Acap- pella Show @ 10 pm, Alumni Gym	VCS presents stu- dent performers @ 9 pm, Benjamin Mays Center	<i>Captain Phillips</i> Bates Filmboard @ 7:30 pm, Olin 104		Martin Luther King Memorial Workshop Service @ 7 pm, Gomes Chapel	Mays Debate @ 1 pm, Olin Concert Hall	
Pause @ 9 pm, Gomes Chapel	Karaoke and Re- freshments @ 11 pm – 1 am, Little Room	Poker Tourna- ment @ 8 pm, Commons			Sankofa @ 7:30 pm, Schaeffer Theater	
		Late Night Break- fast 10 pm – 12 am, Commons				

How bandwagon fans can improve their image

NOAH LEVICK
STAFF WRITER

Bandwagon fans are like a cancer, metastasizing with alarming alacrity and transience. Perhaps my disdain for bandwagoners is primarily due to my inability as a dedicated fan to understand the various motivations for joining a crowd of fellow fair-weather fans.

To me, the rationale for suddenly supporting a successful team is pretty transparent: "fans," nearly all of whom like to win, would prefer to join a flourishing fan base than stick with a miserable one. But regardless of one's

reasons for identifying as a supporter of a prosperous team and their seemingly inevitable tendency to engage in this behavior, I believe that asking these individuals to at least acknowledge their bandwagon nature is a reasonable request.

I am sure that most sports fans are familiar with a scenario involving an unmistakably oblivious fan lamely attempting to appear knowledgeable despite a cringe worthy dearth of actual sports acumen. I unfortunately can't empathize with the plight of the ignorant fan in this situation, since that's never been me. Still, I am confident that this dynamic is prevalent amongst most

fans. I believe that such an unnatural desire to seem like a true fan is actually unnecessary.

As a self-professed (accurately, in my view) real fan, I know that I would prefer if these insecure bandwagoners simply admitted that they knew very little about the sport in question. In general, I feel that genuine people are more enjoyable to be with, and this is especially true when it comes to bandwagon fans. For those wary of being judged or ridiculed, know that such a reaction is only probable towards fans who refuse to identify their actual fanhood with any honor or honesty.

Men's & Women's Alpine Skiing

Alpine skiing begins season with strong performance in Stowe, Vermont

KYLE OLEHNIK
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

After 10 months of off season training for the 2014 campaign, the Bates men's and women's Alpine ski team finally hit the slopes in Stowe, Vermont at the University of Vermont Carnival. Even without leader Emily Bamford '15, who is looking to qualify for the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi as a member of the Australian National team, the women had a very solid day, placing fifth among 13 teams in the event. Although the men's squad had five racers who did not finish, they combined with the women for 95 points, which was good for eighth place.

"In ski racing DNFs [Did Not Finish] are part of the sport and there was a fairly high DNF rate for the entire field. We unfortunately had a higher percentage of them," noted head coach Rogan Connell. "Overall it's not a concern as our men have been skiing very well in training and have been beating many of the top finishers in the early season FIS races," he added.

Pacing the women were junior Emily Hayes who placed ninth out of 67 racers and classmate, Avril Dunleavy

who came in 12th in the giant slalom. Hayes posted two strong runs, which clocked at 1:03.69 and 1:04.07 while Dunleavy had a combined time of 2:08.56. In her collegiate debut, freshman Kelsey Chenoweth took 22nd place.

While the men didn't see the results they hoped for, sophomore Chris Bradbury finished with an overall time of 2:05.67 that placed him 27th among 71 competitors overall, 43 of who finished. While it was a solid opening day for the Bobcats, there still is plenty of room for improvement. "We are going to continue to train hard and productively and hopefully our hard work will show as our college season gets going," Hayes believes.

In addition, although both teams combined for eight place, coach Rogan Connell believes his team could have done more damage if the slalom event hadn't been cancelled. "We also lost an opportunity to move up in to the top-6," he explained. "Moving forward, getting three solid finishers in both genders moves us easily in to the top-5 on the alpine side of things."

The team returns to action January 17th at Sugarloaf for the Colby Carnival.

Men's Hockey

Men's hockey poised for second half breakout after win over MIT

DOUG STEINBERG
MANAGING SPORTS EDITOR

Bates men's hockey destroyed the MIT Engineers in a 7-2 barn burner last Friday, demonstrating that they have the potential to be one of the most dangerous teams on the ice in the second half of the season.

The Bobcats' offense exploded out of the gates and never let up, as senior forward and alternate captain Sean Thomas led the effort with a hat trick and an assist. Senior captain Chris DeBrase added a tally in the first period while collecting three assists to lead the

team. "We came out firing versus MIT," noted DeBrase, "Our top line was able to score early and quickly which got the momentum on our side. It was nice to see a full 60 minute effort."

Senior goaltender Matthew Mosca turned in a solid performance in net, totaling 18 saves on 20 shots while receiving the win.

On Saturday, the Bobcats played host to the Lewiston Police Department's squad in an exhibition match. Bates won the friendly match 7-5 in a surprisingly competitive contest.

"It was really fun to play the cops," added DeBrase, "It wasn't physical or anything so it was a nice change of pace.

It was also great to get to know some of them after the game."

The Bates student population can only hope that the goodwill established in the game will translate into leniency for off campus parties in the future.

The Bobcats have a short home stand coming up this weekend with games against St. Joseph's College on Thursday night and Southern New Hampshire University on Saturday afternoon.

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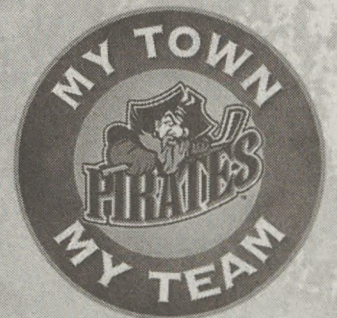
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Women's basketball falls to 7-7 as Kelly scores 1,000th career point

ALYSSA MORGOSH
STAFF WRITER

The Bates women's basketball team, described as "scrappy and feisty" by their head coach Jim Murphy, has had a series of ups and downs this season, bringing them to their current 0.500 win percentage, including an undefeated 2-0 record on their home court.

The women opened their season on Friday, November 15th against Mount Holyoke as part of the Mariner Pepsi Challenge in Castine, Maine in a battle they ultimately conceded to the Lyons 77-63. However, the Bobcats showed early season resilience and overcame jitters to pull off a win in their second game of the year over Simmons the next day.

Following this season-opening tournament play, the team matched up against six Maine schools for non-conference battles, four of which were played prior to Thanksgiving Day. The Bobcats took the first two of these games, defeating Husson 74-44 in their Monday night home-opener on November 18th and UMaine Farmington 84-60 on the 21st, bringing their winning streak to three, their longest of the season to this point.

Returning to game play after the holiday with a record of 3-3, the Bobcats went on a two-game winning streak, claiming non-conference victories over Maine-Machias at home by a margin of 86 points on December 2nd and over Colby on the road in a thrilling overtime triumph, 80-75, on Wednesday the 4th.

The women's team traveled to Northfield, Vermont during the week-end before winter break to play in the Ed Hockenbury Classic at Norwich University, where they fell to Bridgewater State in the semifinal on Friday. The Bobcats defeated UMaine Augusta on Saturday, putting over one hundred



Meredith Kelly '14. COURTESY PHOTO/BATES COLLEGE FILE PHOTO

points on the board in forty minutes for the second time this season, before taking almost a whole month away from opponent matches.

Coming into 2014, the team spent the final weekend of the break from classes in Williamstown, Mass. where they fell to St. Lawrence on Saturday but came back to defeat Rensselaer on Sunday, finishing 1-1 in their Williams Classic competitions.

On Friday the 10th of January, the competition ramped up as the Bobcats took on the Panthers at Middlebury, Vermont in their opening game of conference play. Senior Meredith Kelly and junior Allaina Murphy combined for 29 points and 11 rebounds, but their efforts, in addition to scoring contributions from senior Julia Rafferty and first-year Bernadette Connors, among others (seven of the eight Bobcats who recorded minutes also scored), were not enough to overcome Middlebury's 67-point performance, even after the Bobcats outscored the Panthers 39-33

in the second half. This loss, in front of a crowd of 225 attendees, puts Bates at 0-1 in NESCAC play.

The Bobcats then returned to Maine but stayed on the road as they matched-up against the University of New England in Biddeford on Monday night. Bates trailed, although not far behind, for almost the entirety of the game, ultimately giving the Nor'easters their seventh straight victory, 69-47.

But the story of the night was Meredith Kelly, who became the nineteenth women's basketball Bobcat to score over 1,000 points in her Bates career, including 24 in this contest that came along with eight rebounds and three steals. Kelly's name and final career point total will be displayed on the wall of Alumni Gymnasium, marking her achievement.

This weekend the Bobcats return home and return to NESCAC play, looking to defeat Trinity on Friday at 6:00p.m. and Amherst on Saturday at 2:00p.m., in Alumni Gymnasium.

Men's & Women's Squash

A winning weekend for Bates Squash

KYLE OLEHNIK
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Although they don't get the attention they deserve, both men's and women's squash are among the top programs at Bates College. Led by coach Patrick Cosquer, the men's team went 15-10 overall, 5-1 in conference, last season with a young talent-laden team. The women's team, who weren't as successful as the men a season ago, were also very young and talented. However, this season, both programs are led by some of the best players in country, notably Ahmed Abdel Khalek, who garnered All-American, All-NESCAC, and Rookie of the Year honors, among many other accolades as a freshman.

The men have posted a 4-1 overall record five matches into the season, and after losing to top-ranked Trinity to open the season, the Bobcats have won four in a row against Bowdoin, Tufts, Conn College, and Williams. The women have had the same path, falling to Trinity to open the season, but winning the next four.

This past weekend of matches also marked the return of Abdel Khalek, who has been out for some time due to injury. Even without the All-American in the rotation, the team managed just fine behind freshman standout Ahmed

Sherif Hatata. Sherif Hatata, who hails from Alexandria, Egypt, is great friends with Abdel Khalek and according to Coach Cosquer, "is a world-class player and compliments Ahmed Abdel Khalek very nicely."

The team also secured another feat, beating Williams for the first time since 2008. Behind the duo previously mentioned, who won in straight sets on courts one and two; the Bobcats were also victorious on courts four through seven as juniors Andy Cannon and Nabil Saleem, freshman Darrius Campbell, and sophomore Caran Arora won ultimately taking down the Ephs.

When asked what has sparked this bunch to a four-match win streak, Ahmed Sherif Hatata simply explained, "This is a very athletic group. They've been making big plays at key times."

After Andy Cannon had a thrilling, match-clinching victory, it was the simple "stamina of our players [that] beat the stamina of the opponents when we were 2 down," the Alexandria native credits with winning the match. "The team spirit and the potential when we're all in the same room is unbelievable."

Earlier in the day, the Bobcats had no problem defeating Conn College. All the same players who were involved in the nightcap took home victories, as did senior Kristian Muldoon and fresh-

man Nima Olumi.

Flipping to the women's side, they handled both Williams and Conn College just as easily as the men. Led by juniors Nessrine Ariffin and Myriam Kelly, the 'Cats were able to defeat both teams with stellar play and incredible depth as the bottom third of the ladder took all three matches. Senior captain Rakey Drammeh spurred this bottom third with a four set victory while teammate and sophomore Lauren Williams also won in four sets on court eight.

Bringing up the rear for the Bobcats was freshman Charlotte Cabot who emerged victorious in the number nine spot in straight sets. Just like the men, the women handled Conn College, as everyone previously mentioned were victorious along with four other Bobcats who helped complete the sweep 9-0: Senior Samantha Matos, juniors Lesa Bourke and Chloe Mitchell, as well as first-years Emma Dunn.

"We've been working hard since the beginning of our season and everyone seems very motivated to do better than previous seasons," noted Ariffin. "As of now, we just need to keep on working on our squash techniques and tactics, and believe in our own capabilities."

Both teams will be back in action on January 15th at home against Hamilton.

Men's & Women's Track & Field

Men's and Women's track and field start season with losses to MIT

AJ DeBENEDICTIS
STAFF WRITER

The track season started off with a boom this weekend as the Bates College Bobcats hosted MIT and Colby this Saturday. Although MIT won the team scores for the women and Men,

the Bobcats did a phenomenal in several individual performances, as the Bates men and women finished 1st in more than four events.

"I was very happy about how we started off the year, we have plenty of room to improve but we definitely showed our potential this weekend," Ju-

nior Colby Gail stated after the meet. Junior thrower Sean Enos is quickly making a name for himself and making many Batesies forget his predecessor David Pless.

Men's & Women's Swimming & Diving

Men's and Women's swimming and diving defeat UNE and Norwich in weekend meet

JOHN NEUFELD
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Bates hosted University of New England (UNE) and Norwich University this past Saturday at Tarbell Pool where both the men's and women's teams achieved impressive victories over the visitors. The Bates men's team beat Norwich 232-51 and UNE 235-29 while the women's team bested Norwich an astounding 264-6 and UNE 261-43. Bates won all events at the meet, and garnering second and third place in many of the event as well.

Standout performances for the men's team include junior Andrew Briggs' pool record in the 50-yard breaststroke of 26.92 seconds as well as event victories by senior captain Venkatesh Duvvuri in the 50-yard backstroke and first year Paden Brunault in the 100-yard freestyle.

The women's team's victory was headlined by first-year Helen Keyes' win in the 100-yard freestyle in addition to first-year diver Emma Jarczyk's wins in the 1-meter and 3-meter diving events. First year Shelby Rader is enjoying the season so far. "We're having a great season. We swam really well, especially coming off a really hard week of training," Rader placed first in the 50-meter

freestyle.

"We met against Norwich- which is a military school, and we slaughtered them," said Paden Brunault, a freshman on the men's team. Brunault himself placed first in the 100 free and 100 IM events. Bates is following victories from last weekend where both teams defeated Middlebury for the first time since 1991.

Head coach Peter Casares, who has been at the helm of Bates swimming and diving since 2007, has been working tirelessly to improve his team and make them contenders at the national level. The other four members of the coaching staff have also made huge contributions to the team's success. Says freshman diver Joey Tocci, "Before I came to Bates, I never had any formal diving training. Coach Bartley (Diving Coach) really knows his stuff. He went to the Olympic trials and really helped me take it to the next level."

The dedicated team practices as often as nine times a week in order to maximize their performances. Their hard work has paid off, starting off their season with wins over Wesleyan, Trinity, Middlebury, and now UNE and Norwich. With the two most recent wins, both teams improve to 5-1.

Next weekend, Bates faces Bowdoin away and Colby at home.

Men's Basketball

Men's basketball beats Middlebury on last-second shot



Luke Matarazzo '14. KARA GARLAND/THE BATES STUDENT

NOAH LEVICK
STAFF WRITER

At first glance, the superb scoring abilities of sophomore guard Mike Boornazian (17.7 points per game) and junior Graham Safford (21.4 ppg.) are largely responsible for the Bates men's basketball squad's solid 8-4 start to the season. But Safford and Boornazian are only the most visible members of a well-rounded Bobcat team whose 83 points per game and utter blowouts by scores like 114-61 over Thomas and 97-73 over Berkeley (NY) indicate a vast amount of potential.

In fact, Boornazian attributes his recent prestigious accolade as Maine Player of the Week primarily to his teammates, stating that, "I couldn't do it alone, so I think it shows we are getting better every day as a unit." While the team is frustrated at their perplexing struggles in close games, they're sure to be lifted by Friday's 64-61 win at conference foe Middlebury on a character-

istically clutch Safford 3 pointer.

Friday's win is especially encouraging in light of consecutive buzzer beater losses on December 6th and 29th to Bowdoin and Salem State respectively that could have drained morale. Senior captain Luke Matarazzo's return to the lineup from an injury suffered in the season opener also appears likely to elevate the team's level of play.

From his "time off the court watching film and breaking down the game from the outside looking in," Matarazzo observed that "this is the most athletic team I've been a part of in my four years, and we are yet to even scratch the surface of our potential." Matarazzo thinks that, as long as integral role players like junior guards Adam Philpott and Billy Selmon continue to play well, the Bobcats "have a legitimate chance of winning the league."

The Bobcats' first league home games of the year against Trinity on January 17th and versus Amherst on the 18th will be crucial in pursuit of this goal.